<u>Claim Amendments</u>

Applicants have amended claim 1, and have cancelled claims 55, 56 and 58 without prejudice. Applicants set forth below a complete listing of the claims with the corresponding status indicated for each claim.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for providing a design test bench, the method comprising:

providing a single executable program that partition~~ings~~ functionality of the test bench between a simulation engine and one or more scripted routines ~~within a single executable program~~, wherein each scripted routine implements a corresponding function;

instantiating one or more interpreters in the simulation engine, wherein each interpreter is associated with a corresponding scripted routine and may interact with the simulation engine independently of any other interpreter;

causing the simulation engine to pass control to the corresponding interpreter upon encountering one of the functions; and

causing the corresponding interpreter to return control to the simulation engine upon encountering a task that is performed by the simulation engine.

2-4. (Cancelled).

5. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, further comprising synchronizing the simulation engine and the corresponding interpreter via a semaphore.

6-56. (Cancelled).

57. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, further comprising directly sharing variables between the simulation engine and the one or more scripted routines.

58. (Cancelled).